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Contents for Week of October 19, 1936. Vol. XV. No. 15.

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Photograph courtesy U. S. Department of Agriculture

JOGGING ALONG ONE OF THE NETHERLANDS' PATHS TO GLORY

To maintain colonies in two hemispheres, The Netherlands must often send soldiers, merchants, and sometimes their wives into trackless jungles. This "chair-car" is their means of transportation into the interior of Sumatra, in the East Indies (see Bulletin No. 4).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Hankow on the Yangtze Like St. Louis on the Mississippi

JAPANESE marines have landed in Hankow, China, following the shooting there of a fellow-countryman, and again this great port, 600 miles inland on the mighty Yangtze River, is brought into prominence.

Because Hankow is a large population center, is situated on China's greatest river, and is far from the sea, it may well be compared to St. Louis.

The foreign concessions in Hankow are grouped together along the Bund, stretching for two miles along the Yangtze River bank, presenting the picture of a bit of Europe or America set down in the heart of teeming China.

Foreign Concessions Have Modern Buildings

Trees shade the wide boulevard, while the landward side is flanked by modern banks and business buildings that are not unlike those of New York, London, or Paris.

Foreign influence has made itself felt in Hankow for many decades, dating from 1861, when Great Britain was granted the first trading concession after Hankow was opened to foreign commerce. Japan has had a concession at Hankow since 1898, and France and Russia also are represented. The former German concession has reverted to the Chinese.

While wide streets and modern residences and shops mark the foreign concessions, in the background the native city seethes in striking contrast. Man-pulled traffic jams the narrow twisting lanes and alleys, some paved with flagstones, others mere ruts.

Children yell at play, venders cry out their wares; coolies, bearing heavy burdens, warn passersby to dodge their bulky loads. Beggars groan and moan; rickshaw boys shout as they hurry their fares through a jumbled mass of noisy humanity.

Port Handles Heavy Traffic

On the broad Yangtze, too, and the tributary which enters it here, the Han, heavy traffic flows unceasingly. This trading center at the junction of the two rivers, composed of the three cities of Hankow, Hanyang, and Wuchang, is the funnel through which vast trade flows to and from the surrounding region of China.

In their activities, Hankow and its sister cities form a sort of St. Louis, Pittsburgh, and New Orleans rolled into one. It is an assembling and distributing center, the site of extensive steel and iron manufacturing, and a bustling river port. One and one-half million people, it is estimated, find their livelihood in the Hankow district.

The river front of Hankow is an amazing conglomeration of shipping (see illustration, next page). Ungainly junks move about the water in the hands of expert rivermen as easily as modern vessels in any American harbor. Some ancient craft display rotten sides with gaping holes above the waterline. Others, adorned with brightly painted carvings, resemble floating circus wagons. Decorations show the boatman's fondness for his craft and also his hope for good luck from the use of symbols.

Small sampans dart here and there under the muscle-power of perspiring coolies whose families, beneath matting-covered awnings, fill the air along the

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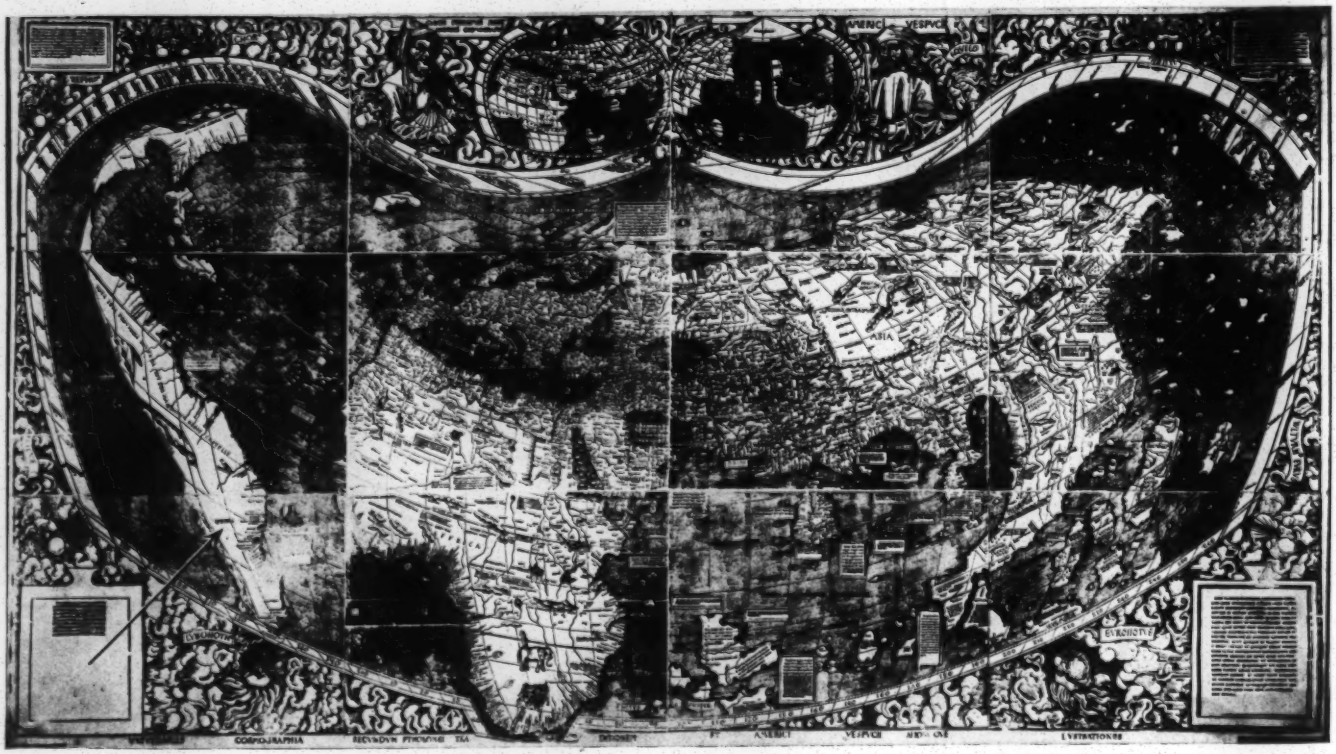

BIRTH CERTIFICATE OF AMERICA: EARLIEST MAP KNOWN TO USE THE NAME

The arrow in the lower left-hand corner points out what is reputedly the first public appearance of "America," on a wall map 8 by 4½ feet printed in 12 sections from wood engravings to accompany a new geography book. It was published in St. Dié, France, in 1507, the work of Martin Waldseemüller. Amerigo Vespucci stands at the top beside the New World Hemisphere. Unexplored spaces in the main map are decorated with such designs as the elephant in southern Africa and the parrot in Brazil (see Bulletin No. 5).

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Colorado's "Unclaimed" Heart

COLORADO is now 100 per cent a part of the United States. To guarantee this completeness, in August the Governor raised the Stars and Stripes over a 1,300-square-mile tract which felt neglected, thereby claiming it officially.

Located between two important treaty accessions in an area covered by neither, inhabitants of the eastern halves of Grand and Summit Counties were previously uneasy about their citizenship. Were they living in a scrap of France or Mexico lost in the Rockies? They pointed out that land to the right of them had been acquired by the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, land to the left of them by the Texas "Panhandle" Purchase in 1845. When, they demanded, was their section in the middle acquired?

Scarred by Indian Fires

Records of the General Land Office revealed that the area had been obtained from no such absentee landlords as France or Mexico, but actually from the people who lived there—by a treaty with the Ute Indians on March 2, 1868.

As reminder of the Indians' departure from their relinquished homes in this area, traces can still be seen of the Indian fires, stretches of woodland burned in hope of frightening the game toward the reservations.

This "forgotten frontier" extends northward about 70 miles, just west of the exact center of Colorado. Its eastern boundary is the Continental Divide, where towering peaks of the Front Range approach the State's highest altitudes. Its western boundary, set by the Texas "Panhandle" Purchase, is a straight line due north from the headwaters of the Arkansas River, cutting the Divide near Fremont Pass above Leadville in the south and Willow Pass in the north.

The territory within is a lopsided oval of rugged mountain country, said to have produced $100,000,000 in wealth, mainly in timber and minerals, and still producing. Herein lie the headwaters of the Colorado River in the northern section and of the Blue River in the southern, the Western Portal of the Moffat Tunnel, and the southwestern third of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Even the Passes Are Two Miles above Sea Level

Five of its mountain giants soar far above timber line to an altitude above two and a half miles, and one of them, Quandary Peak, has been found by one survey to top by a foot the majestic Longs Peak a few miles east. Indeed, the passes are over two miles above sea level, and require constant vigilance against choking snows in the winter (see illustration, next page).

In comparison with the populous area around Denver, 50 miles east, few inhabitants have filtered through the mountain barrier to live near Colorado's heart. Their metropolis is the mining town of Breckenridge near the southern end, which can barely muster 700 inhabitants even for state occasions. Isolated miners and farmers along the river valleys complete the count.

Hot Sulphur Springs in the northern half is the county seat of Grand County, by virtue of defeating the little town of Grandlake, on the shore of Grand Lake, in an "argument"; three men were reported killed. Hot Sulphur Springs could claim precedence on its long record as a population center—for Indians.

But Grand Lake had also been an Indian resort. In fact, rival tribes had fought over desirable locations beside the State's largest body of water. During

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shore with the singsong chatter of the Orient. It has been estimated that 25,000 native boats ply in and out of Hankow and its neighboring cities. Meanwhile modern steamboats from the lower Yangtze come and go on schedule, some of them vessels of considerable size.

Cargoes Varied and Exotic

What do all these boats carry? For the answer, look inside the vast concrete warehouses or "godowns" whose roofs form a prominent feature of the Hankow skyline. There usually are stored hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of cotton, silk, tea, tung oil for varnishes, beans, and many other products of the broad areas drained by the Yangtze and the Han. From Hankow they are shipped downstream to markets of China and the world.

Note: See also "Approach to Peiping," *National Geographic Magazine*, February, 1936; "Coastal Cities of China," November, 1934; "Glory That Was Imperial Peking," June, 1933; "Cosmopolitan Shanghai," September, 1932; "Life Afloat in China," "Geography of China," and "New China and the Printed Page," June, 1927; "Thousand Miles Along the Great Wall of China," February, 1923; and "Eden of the Flowery Republic," November, 1920.

See also in the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS: "Peiping No Longer the 'City of Northern Peace,'" week of January 13, 1936; "The Hwang Ho, Lashing Tail of China's Flood Dragon," week of January 6, 1936; "Bias Bay, Lair of Present-Day Pirates," week of February 25, 1935; "Chahar, Scene of New Japanese Troop Advance," week of February 11, 1935; "Shanghai, China's Biggest and Busiest City," week of October 16, 1933; and "China's Yangtze, Busiest River in the World," week of March 13, 1933.

Bulletin No. 1, October 19, 1936.

Photograph from Robert F. Fitch

BEAUTY TREATMENT FOR A BOAT

Many Hankow boatmen scorn garish colors and protect the natural complexion of their boats with regular applications of oil. Rubbed into the surface with rolls of soft lint, the oil accentuates and preserves the natural finish and grain of the wood.

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Bushmaster Bagged by Young Snake-Snarers in Panama

NEAR Balboa, Panama Canal Zone, three high school students who were strolling home from a fishing jaunt performed a service for science. With their fishing net and an empty oil can, they caught a live bushmaster—two yards of mortally dangerous snake.

Although known to be America's deadliest serpent, the bushmaster has seldom been studied because of its extreme rarity in captivity.

Scarcity of caged bushmasters is due to the snakes' vicious disposition. Although found all too frequently in tropical Central and South America, they have a violence of attack that makes their startled discoverer forget to argue them into becoming zoological specimens. Self-preservation usually prevents snake-preservation.

Pines Away When Caged

If spared by its captor, however, the bushmaster sets about killing itself. Comfortable cage lush with tropical warmth and moisture, cozy dark hiding places, and tempting morsels of skinned rabbits or small rats—these do not compensate for lost liberty. The snake blights its career as a zoo favorite by a hunger strike. After four or five months behind the bars, the few previously captured bushmasters have invariably died.

The bushmaster is the snake superlative. It is the largest species of the New World tropics, the longest of its type, its slender sinuous coils flowing to a length of 8 to 12 feet. Superior strength makes it strike like lightning—quick and devastating. Death in ten minutes is known to have been the fate of one of its victims.

Coiled passively behind the glass panels of a zoo cage, the New World's deadliest viper could deceive a casual passerby into thinking it a diamond-backed rattlesnake left too long in the sun. Severity of the apparent sunburn would vary in different specimens from a delicate salmon pink to reddish brown. A string of bold diamond-shaped blotches end to end stretches along its back, as camouflage to conceal it in its shadow-spotted jungle haunts.

A Rattleless Rattlesnake

In fact, the bushmaster is a sort of rattlesnake—without the rattle. It wears at the end of its tapering tail a hollow horn tip which, with rapid vibrations rattler style, produces a buzzing whirr. Because of this equipment to frighten away its enemies, the bushmaster is called in Central America "La Cascabela Muta," the mute rattlesnake.

Its name in Brazil is the Sirocucu, in Trinidad the Mapepire Z'Ananna; everywhere the name implies bad news. It was a constant threat to engineers clearing the way for the Panama Canal. The name given it in English warns that no other creatures of the jungle underbrush can hope to overpower it (see illustration, next page).

This viperish tyrant feels the necessity of avenging every insult. It will aggressively pursue the startled intruder who disturbs its serpentine siesta. Slender, light of weight, and active, the bushmaster can move with a third of its length lifted a foot above the ground, poised for a powerful stroke. It does not, like

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one such fray, legend recounts that all squaws and papooses of one tribe were set afloat on the lake for safety beyond arrow-shot, but a sudden storm upset their rafts and drowned them. The lake, now the scene of more peaceful contests such as regattas, is one of the highest sailboat anchorages in the world.

Mining has been the area's preoccupation for almost a century, since Fremont the Pathfinder explored the passes into this highland treasure chest, sometimes under Kit Carson's guidance. By 1860 enough Indiana miners had set to work around Hoosier Gulch and Pass to lend their nickname to the neighborhood. Breckenridge is the center for several gold mines, and within 20 miles are found both silver and lead. At Climax is the world's greatest molybdenum mine.

Through mining and homesteading most of the land has passed into private ownership, although it was all public land a little over sixty years ago. Without hampering mining activities, the Forest Service protects timber and watersheds through much of the area, proclaiming it the Arapaho National Forest.

Berthoud Pass, discovered by frontiersman Berthoud in 1861, was used for the original road through this country between Denver and Salt Lake City, route of the patient Mormon trek. A modern highway now crosses where swaying stage coaches used to tear up and down precipitous slopes in the hope of outwitting highwaymen and carrying their cargo of bullion and adventurers safely to civilization (see illustration, below).

Note: "Colorado, A Barrier That Became a Goal," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1932, presents a timely and pictorial description of this State. See also "Pieces of Silver," September, 1933; "Men and Gold," April, 1933; "Pirate Rivers and Their Prizes," July, 1926; "Western Views in the Land of the Best," April, 1923; "The Fight at the Timber-Line," August, 1922; "The Scenery of North America," April, 1922; and "A Mind's-Eye Map of America," June, 1920.

See also in the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS: "N. E. A. Convention Will Meet in Denver," week of May 13, 1935; and "Denver Soon To Be on Main Line to California," week of April 23, 1934.

Bulletin No. 2, October 19, 1936.

Photograph by J. Frank McDaniel

HIGHWAYS REACH A NEW HIGH IN COLORADO

No longer a "No Man's Land" in any sense, Colorado's recently re-claimed counties are entered by Berthoud Pass, 11,300 feet high, where the main highway crosses the Great Divide. Here winter snow drifts, and tractor snowplows clear the road for automobile traffic.

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The Netherlands: "Biggest Little Country in Europe"

WHEN The Netherlands abandoned the gold standard recently, money values were affected in two hemispheres. For this pocket-size kingdom at home is a far-flung empire abroad.

Although among the smallest countries in Europe, The Netherlands has such extensive and valuable colonies that it ranks with the greatest of colonial powers.

Motherland One-Sixty-Third as Large as Colonies

The motherland embraces a scant 12,579 square miles, about the area of Maryland, or Massachusetts and Connecticut combined. But the total area of the colonies is 63 times as great as The Netherlands territory in Europe—790,000 square miles, a region equal to more than a fifth of the vast area of the United States.

With such extensive colonies, which are foreign investments of a sort, The Netherlands has had continuing need to be somewhat of a banking country. Amsterdam was the location of one of Europe's famous early banks, founded in 1609.

The thrifty, money-conscious country adopted as its monetary unit the guilder, or gulden, the very name of which signifies its "golden" worth. The florin is an interchangeable term for the same unit.

The bulk of the territorial possessions of The Netherlands, known as Netherlands Indies, are in the Far East, making up the major portion of the huge archipelago that lies between Asia and Australia.

In this region the great islands of Sumatra (see illustration, front page), Java, and the Celebes, and countless small islands are completely under Netherlands control; and in addition the country shares the possession of Borneo with Great Britain, Timor with Portugal, and New Guinea with Australia.

In this far-flung island realm, 60,727,000 people recognize the sovereignty of the indefatigable empire builders who journeyed 6,000 miles from home to set up their rule.

Kingdom Extends to New World

The remainder of The Netherlands colonial possessions lie on the other side of the world in South America and in islands in the Caribbean Sea. Surinam (often called Dutch Guiana) makes up the greater part of Netherlands territory in the New World, accounting for 54,291 square miles—an area almost as great as that of Illinois.

Curaçao, the largest of the Caribbean island possessions, which has given its name to an after-dinner liqueur, has an area of about 200 square miles. From Willemstad, on this island, are governed the five other islands which comprise this colony.

The New World adds nearly a quarter of a million to The Netherlands colonial population, bringing the total for all the colonies close to 61,000,000. The population of The Netherlands in Europe is slightly in excess of one-seventh of that number.

This extensive kingdom has been given notice of another change. The Netherlands, presided over for more than two years by a widowed Queen, may look forward to having a Prince Consort again.

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the rattlesnake, form a tight coil which takes an instant to untangle; from a loose lateral S-curve, it darts into striking on the run. Much of its menace is due to its power of striking for the greater part of its length.

Fangs Like Ivory Hypodermic Needles

The deadly bushmaster is equipped with phenomenal fangs, sometimes two inches long, which fold up against the roof of the mouth when not in use. They have been compared to ivory hypodermic needles, for through them a tiny poison channel can eject a spoonful of venom under great pressure.

A rubbery pineapple nine feet long would be the only approximation of the bushmaster's skin. Each little diamond-shaped scale has a warty spine. Such a tough coat cannot be shed in captivity; probably it is normally cast while the snake softens it by writhing through moist underground burrows of terrified little mammals.

The bushmaster is considered a pit viper because of a small unexplained pit on each side of the head between the flat lidless button eye and the nostril.

It is the longest of the rattlesnake clan and the only one to hatch from eggs. Indeed, there is no other serpent quite like the bushmaster, a fact which is seldom regretted.

Note: Some of the countries where the bushmaster is found are described in the following: "Hunting Useful Plants in the Caribbean," *National Geographic Magazine*, December, 1934; "Skypaths through Latin America," January, 1931; "Flying the World's Longest Air-Mail Route," March, 1930; "Buenos Aires to Washington by Horse," February, 1929; "To Bogota and Back by Air," May, 1928; "How Latin America Looks from the Air," October, 1927; "Who Treads Our Trails?" September, 1927; "Exploring the Valley of the Amazon in a Hydroplane," April, 1926; and "Nature's Transformation at Panama," August, 1915.

Bulletin No. 3, October 19, 1936.

Photograph by Frank M. Chapman

BUSH WHERE THE BUSHMASTER IS MASTER

From this tree perch, a naturalist observed the animal life of a Panama jungle, typical of the areas frequented by bushmasters. Seven in one season were killed on the site of Madden Dam, just 15 miles away from the Panama Canal Zone. Most of the few bushmasters ever brought to the United States were captured in Trinidad, where they are a real danger on sugar cane plantations.

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Putting "America" on the Map

AMERICA can see itself as others saw it first, by inspecting the Harvard Tercentenary exhibition of historical maps. The display is reported to include the first one known to put "America" on the map—the Waldseemüller wall chart published in St. Dié, France, in 1507 (see illustration, inside cover).

Because of this momentous name-calling, St. Dié is regarded as the "godmother of America."

From circumstantial evidence a theory is patched together to account for the invention of "America." Discovered by an Italian in Spanish ships, the country was named for another Italian by German scholars in a Latin geography printed in France and dedicated to the German emperor.

Bringing Geography "Up To Date" in 1507

A learned place was St. Dié, sheltered Lorraine town in the Vosges Mountains a few miles from the German border of northeastern France. It had been a miniature intellectual center almost from the time of its settlement, shortly after a seventh century missionary established a monastery in the quiet valley. Named in honor of founder St. Deodatus, "the gift of God," the town's title was popularly shortened to St. Dié.

While Columbus was seeking royal finances for what many of his contemporaries considered his rattle-brained scheme of sailing off the western edge of the flat earth, the St. Dié intellectuals enjoyed the patronage of the current Duke of Lorraine. Their "literary society," famous under the name of the Gymnasium of the Vosges, was almost a primitive geographic society, organized for the popular diffusion of geographic knowledge through the medium of that incredible German contraption called the printing press.

Indications are that they planned a new edition of Ptolemy's ancient Greek geography, bringing it up to date. Collaborators would be the capricious German poet and scientist, Matthias Ringmann, and Martin Waldseemüller as map maker (see illustration, next page). Publication of the *Cosmographiae Introductio,* or "Introduction to Geography," with maps, in 1507, was to be only the beginning.

Why Not "Vespuccia"?

Rumors reached St. Dié that Columbus was not quite the latest news in westward exploration. Editors of the new geography read and printed an account of the voyages of the sea-going Florentine scholar Amerigo Vespucci, who asserted that the newly discovered territories across the "Sea of Darkness" were not the farthest eastern outposts of Asia and the Indies, as Columbus had hoped, but an entirely separate continent. Because this explorer discovered the discovery of the New World, St. Dié cartographers apparently decided to christen the new lands in honor of the man who signed his letters, in Latin, Americus Vespuccius.

It may be, as some antiquarians maintain, that only the poetic ear of whimsical Ringmann determined that the first name should be used instead of the last: America and not Vespuccia. It is even more probable that Amerigo never learned of "America's" name.

Today on the town's main square, beside a pharmacy, stands the building in which St. Dié's notable printing press was set up. The Town Hall, within its red sandstone arcades, displays as one of the prizes of its museum a copy of the *Cosmographiae Introductio.*

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Princess Juliana, only child of the present Queen Wilhelmina and the late Prince Consort Henry, will be married in a few months, it has been announced, to the son of a former German princely family, Prince Bernhard zu Lippe-Biesterfeld.

Prince Consort To Share Throne, Not Government

When Juliana becomes Queen of The Netherlands, her husband will sit beside her as Prince Consort, but, like her late father, will have no part in ruling the kingdom.

Note: The following issues of the *National Geographic Magazine* describe The Netherlands and its possessions: "A Modern Dragon Hunt on Komodo," January, 1936; "Hunting Useful Plants in the Caribbean," December, 1934; "New Country Awaits Discovery," and "Some Odd Pages from the Annals of the Tulip," September, 1933; "The Greatest Voyage in the Annals of the Sea," (Magellan's), December, 1932; "Island of Nias, at the Edge of the World," August, 1931; "Among the Hill Tribes of Sumatra," February, 1930; "Vacation in Holland," and "Through Java in Pursuit of Color," September, 1929; "Artist Adventures on the Island of Bali," March, 1928; "Stalking the Dragon Lizard on the Island of Komodo," August, 1927; "Holland's War with the Sea," March, 1923; and "From London to Australia by Aeroplane," March, 1921.

Large wall maps of Europe, Asia, and the countries of the Caribbean, showing The Netherlands and its possessions, may be obtained from The Society's headquarters in Washington, D. C., for 50 cents on paper, and 75 cents on linen.

Bulletin No. 4, October 19, 1936.

Photograph by Emil P. Albrecht

NETHERLANDS CHEESES ARE STILL ON THE GOLD STANDARD

The globular cheeses of Edam show their golden color through the thin protective coating of wax. Some, however, are covered with red wax for export to catch the eye of foreign buyers, and their sale contributes materially to the wealth of The Netherlands. The porters in white wear suspenderlike harnesses to carry these loaded trays to the weigh-house to be weighed and sold in the weekly market. To this honorable position they have been elected for life.

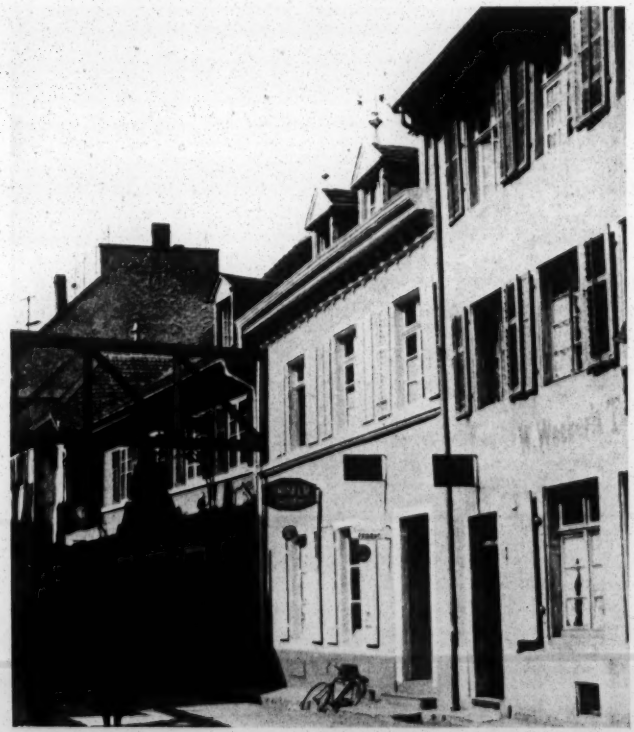
Old St. Dié rambles down a slope beside the Meurthe River, a cozy collection of brownstone fronts. Even the Cathedral is built of the reddish sandstone which crops out from the tree-covered mountainsides above. The new town across the river is spacious and neat, for it was almost entirely rebuilt a century and a half ago after a devastating fire. Waterpower from the Meurthe makes it mildly industrial. Colored textiles which imitate woollen and linen fabrics, hosiery, wire, and wire gauze are produced in its factories.

Industry came to a standstill during the World War, when St. Dié's frontier location exposed it to constant bombardment and alternate occupations by two armies. The town has been awarded a croix de guerre to compensate for its war loss. In the last year of the war, "America's godmother" was defended by American troops.

See also "The Story of the Map," *National Geographic Magazine*, December, 1932; and "In French Lorraine," November-December, 1917.

The "Map of Discovery" of the Western Hemisphere shows the route of the early explorer, Amerigo Vespucci, to America. This map was first issued as a supplement to the January, 1929, *National Geographic Magazine*. The original of this map, painted by N. C. Wyeth, is hung in Hubbard Memorial Hall of The Society's headquarters. Reproductions of the map in color suitable for framing can be had at 50 cents each.

Bulletin No. 5, October 19, 1936.



Photograph by Alicia O'Reardon Overbeck

EARLY HOME OF "AMERICA'S" GODFATHER

Famous Martin was one of the large Waldseemüller family which occupied both of these houses, Nos. 9 and 11 Lowenstrasse in Freiburg, Germany. No. 9, despite being over four centuries old, now serves as a beauty shop. Waldseemüller, later joining the group of scholars at St. Dié, there prepared maps which started the use of "America" as the New World's new name.

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